

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/863,583

Examiner

Thanhnga B. Truong

Applicant(s)

MORIKAWA ET AL.

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/21/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-6,8-17 and 19-28.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment filed on August 21, 2006 has been entered. Claims 1, 4-6, 8-17, and 19-28 are pending. Claims 2-3, 7, and 18 are cancelled by the applicant.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Dexter T. Chang on September 27, 2006. The applicant agreed to amend claim 4 to clarify the function of the steps recite in the body of claim 4.

CLAIMS:

3. Please amend claim 4 as follows:

A method of distributed group management for indirectly authenticating membership of a user in a group in order to manage security for a client on a client side and a server for executing the remote processing request from the client side under a predetermined authorization assigned for every group, comprising the step of:

processing information of original group information including the name of the group to which the related user belongs by a cryptographic function when there is said remote processing request on the client side and issuing a group certificate obtained by adding an issuance side processed value obtained by encrypting the information of the original group information by the cryptographic function to the original group information, and including first secret information assigned to said groups in said original group information and performing the processing by said cryptographic function, said first secret information being held only by a group certificate issuing apparatus,

processing the information of the received group certificate by an identical cryptographic function to obtain a verification side processed value on a server side, and including second secret information assigned to the groups in part of information included in said received group certificates and performing the processing by said cryptographic function, said second secret information being held only by a group certificate verification unit, said first secret information and said second secret information being identical secret information for identical groups, and

comparing said verification side processed value and received issuance side processed value on the server side and confirming that they coincide, thereby to perform said authentication, and verify the legitimacy of said group certificate transmitted from the client side in said server, wherein

said cryptographic function is a hash function.

Response to Argument

4. Applicant's arguments filed August 21, 2006 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

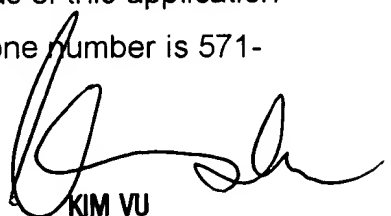
Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1, 4-6, 8-17, and 19-28 are allowed.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanhnga (Tanya) Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-3858.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The central fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.


KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100